

REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR
May 17, 2002

JUNE HEARINGS FOR GREENSPACE GRANT RULE

On April 24 the Natural Resources Board (NRB) authorized public hearings on proposed ch. NR 173. This rule would create the new Brownfields Green Space and Public Facilities grant program. It includes eligibility requirements and scoring criteria. The grant, authorized in the 2001-2003 biennial budget, allows the DNR to award a total of \$1 million to local governments to fund the cleanup of brownfields with specific green space, recreation or public facility end uses. Video-conference hearings on this rule will be held Tuesday, June 11 in five locations. Public comments may be made at the hearings or submitted in writing by June 28, 2002. Written comments should be submitted to Michael Prager - RR/3, Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707 or by fax at (608) 267-7646.

The video hearings will be at 1:00 p.m. in the following locations:

Room 139, 718 W. Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire

Room 618, 200 N. Jefferson St., Green Bay

Room 021, 101 S. Webster St, Madison

Room 98, 819 N. 6th St, Milwaukee

Room 2, 107 Sutliff Ave, Rhinelander

The proposed rule language is on the RR web site:

http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/wi_regs/index.htm#anchor74198

After all comments are received, the rule will go back before the NRB on August 13-14. At that time the RR Program will request simultaneous adoption of the same rule language as an emergency rule and as a permanent rule. If you have questions or need a paper copy of the proposed rule please call Michael Prager at (608) 261-4927.

MONITORING WELL SURVEY REQUIREMENTS

Chapter NR 141, Groundwater Monitoring Well Requirements, requires an as-built plan map showing groundwater monitoring wells "in relation to each other, to property and structure boundaries, and to a common reference point on a horizontal grid system. The origin of the grid system shall be located according to latitude and longitude or according to the state plane coordinate system" (NR 141.065). In addition, NR 141.065(2) requires "The exact vertical location of the top of the well casing shall be referenced to the nearest benchmark for the national geodetic survey datum to an accuracy of 0.01 ft." One of the reasons for proper well surveying is because road crews, down-gradient property owners, contractors and others sometimes destroy and pave over wells. Without a proper survey of the well location, it is often impossible to locate and properly abandon the well when it is time to request case closure. Without documentation of appropriate well abandonment, DNR may require recording a notice with the property deed to inform future owners of the existence of a monitoring well, and the need to properly abandon it if it is ever located. Consultants should be sure that the origin point for their local grid system is tied to USGS datum as required by NR 141, and also be sure that their origin point is a feature that will still exist on the site at the end of the remediation project.

WELL CONSTRUCTION REPORTS AVAILABLE ON CD-ROM

The Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey (WGNS) now has well

constructor's reports (WCRs) on CD-ROM. These CD-ROMs contain about 350,000 scanned images of original paper copies submitted by well drillers to DNR from 1936 through 1989. WCRs usually contain the name of the well owner, owner's mailing address, location of the well (most do not list street addresses and some do not list quarter sections), distances from the well to buildings, sewers, silos, animal yards; the construction of the well, including diameters and lengths of drillhole and of casing, liner, or screen; the geologic materials the driller observed during drilling of the well; water level and pumping test data; the well driller's name and address; the date the well was completed; and the date that a water sample was sent to a laboratory for analysis. Only in rare cases has any of this information been field checked. Errors, especially with regard to the location of wells, are common. Users need to supply their own viewing and database/spreadsheet software. These CDs are not returnable to WGNS after purchase, but an on-line sample set is available for preview (with names of well owners deleted). <http://www.uwex.edu/wgnhs/wcrs.htm>

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